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(71) Applicant(s)

Hewlett-Packard Company  
(Incorporated in USA - Delaware)  
3000 Hanover Street, Palo Alto, California 94304,  
United States of America

(72) Inventor(s)

Hugh F Mahon  
Fredrick Roeling

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service

Carpmaels & Ransford  
43 Bloomsbury Square, LONDON, WC1A 2RA,  
United Kingdom

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(54) Abstract Title

**Aggregation of log data from different operating systems into a central data log**

(57) Apparatus and methods for maintaining a centralized data log [105] for a distributed computer system [100] utilizing more than one type of operating system [125,135,165]. The present patent document discloses techniques for transferring and storing log data [300] across different platforms and the aggregation of that log data [300] into one location wherein the processes detecting the log data [300] are executed by operating systems [125,135,165] which are not limited to being of the same type. Thus, this aggregation mechanism is designed to allow multiple processes [130,160] operating on diverse kinds of systems [140,170] to log to a central system [115], which itself may be on any kind of system. An administrator can monitor from a single source the operation of a distributed computer system [100], as for example a distributed management tool, whose components may be distributed across a network [190] and operating on multiple, geographically dispersed computers [140,170].

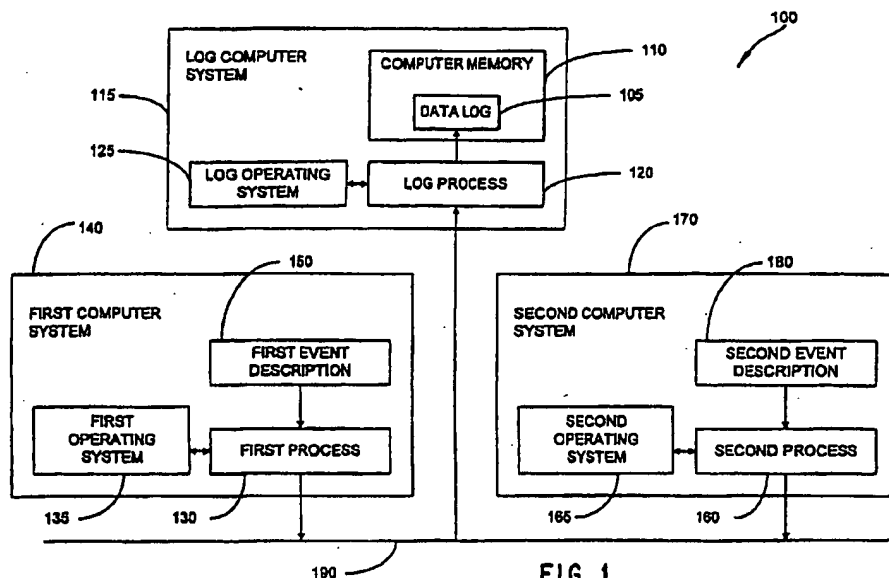


FIG. 1

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